

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-17

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

AID-20 SSC-01 RSR-01 /106 W
----- 105489

R 182201 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4357

INFO USCINCSO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SANTIAGO 2183

USCINCSO FOR POLAD

EO 11652: N/ A

TAGS: CI PINT

SUBJ: PDC SAVES MILLAS . . . THIS TIME

REF: SANTIAGO 2087

1. SUMMARY. PDC ABSTENTION ENABLED ECONOMINISTER TO AVERT IMPEACHMENT, BUT PDC SERVED NOTICE IT WILL REMOVE MILLAS IF GOVT FAILS RECTIFY " DISCRIMINATORY" DISTRIBUTION POLICIES BY MONTH' S END. END SUMMARY.
2. BY 27-41-1 VOTE, UP FORCES IN CHAMBER OF DEPS MAY 17 DEFEATED MOTION TO IMPEACH MINECON ORLANDO MILLAS (PCCH), BLAMED FOR ABUSES IN GOVT' S EVOLVING DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM FOR BASIC COMMODITIES. MILLAS SAVED BY PDC DEPUTIES' ABSENCE EN MASSE.
3. NEW PDC PRES SENATOR PATRICIO AYLWIN ISSUED PRE- VOTE DECLARATION ATTRIBUTING ABSTENTION TO SLOPPY DRAFTING OF NATIONAL PARTY' S MOTION WHICH HELD MILLAS RESPONSIBLE FOR ACTIONS INITIATED BEFORE HE ASSUMED ECONOMY PORTFOLIO. AYLWIN VOWED, HOWEVER, THAT IF GOVT FAILED RECTIFY POLICIES (BY
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DISAVOWING JAP PREROGATIVES RIGHTLY BELONGING TO STATUTORY NEIGHBORHOOD ORGS, PUTTING REAL CONTROL OF SUPPLY AND DISTRIBUTION IN MILITARY HANDS, ETC.), PDC WOULD INTRODUCE OWN IMPEACHMENT MOTION. ULTIMATUM SET END- OF- MAY DEADLINE FOR GOVT COMPLIANCE.

4. COMMENT. PDC INACTION SURPRISED THOSE WHO INTERPRETED HARDLINER VICTORY AT RECENT PDC JUNTA (REF) TO MEAN PDC WOULD ENDORSE ALL SUCH MEASURES. PARAPHRASING AYLWIN' S PROMISE ON THAT OCCASION THAT PDC THEREAFTER WAS " NOT GOING TO LET ONE GET BH," PN DAILY LA TRIBUNA OBSERVED PDC HAD ALREADY MISSED THE FIRST ONE. IT HAS ALWAYS BEEN DIFFICULT FOR PDC, EVER- SENSITIVE TO ITS " PROGRESSIVE" CREDENTIALS, TO PERMIT ITSELF TO BE PORTRAYED AS TAIL ON PN' S DOG ESPECIALLY WHEN, AS APPARENTLY WAS CASE, PN FAILED TO CONSULT WITH PDC BEFOREHAND. PDC LEFTWINGERS REMAIN UNCONVINCED OF EFFICACY OF IMPEACHMENTS AS OPPOSITION WEAPON , AND FROM WHAT WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO GATHER, CONSENSUS ON PROPOSAL TO IMPEACH ENTIRE CABINET IS STILL LACKING. AS IT IS HIGHLY UNLIKELY GOVT IS DISPOSED TO MEET PDC DEMANDS, AYLWIN' S STATEMENT AMOUNTS TO PUBLIC PDC COMMITMENT TO REMOVE MILLAS NEXT TIME ROUND.
DAVIS

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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